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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" (a) None of the bonus applications received in time is pending disposal in Nellore district.

" (b) The question does not arise."

SRI B. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—" Sir, my case there. I must be paid Rs. 500."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" I have answered that none of the bonus applications received in time is pending disposal in Nellore district. I do not know whether the application of the hon. Member comes within the category of applications received out of time."

SRI B. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—" May I know the time-limit fixed for the receipt of applications? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" The time-limit fixed was 15th June 1952 for the receipt of bonus applications from producers and 15th July 1952 for the receipt of bills from the procuring agents."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—" The question was how many applications were received and at what stage they stood. It is immaterial whether they were received in time or out of time."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" It is immaterial to the hon. Member whether they were received in time or out of time. As far as the Government are concerned, they fixed a time limit for the receipt of applications and the amount due has been paid in respect of all applications received with that time."

* 794 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER:—" This question will be taken up to-morrow."

Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive.

* 795 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) whether there has been any change in the policy of the Government towards the scheme of separation of Judiciary from the Executive; and

(b) what are the steps so far taken by the Government in the light of observations made by the Committee that was appointed to go into the working of the scheme of separation of Judiciary from the Executive, to remove the defects and improve the standard of administration of criminal justice?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" (a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (b) of his starred question No. 193 (593) on the 26th March 1953. There has been no change in the policy.

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"(b) As a necessary preliminary to the taking of decisions on the various recommendations of the Committee, Government have called for the views of the relevant heads of departments."

SRI M. S. MOGRAL:—"May I know when the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive will be introduced in the West Coast districts?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"As soon as possible. It may take a month or two."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP:—"If there is no change in the policy of the Government, may I know the number of non-separation districts when this Ministry assumed office and the number of districts to which the separation scheme has been extended since then?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"The hon. Member knows that in the meantime a committee was appointed to go into the working of the scheme. We are examining the report of that committee, and the question of extension will be taken up only after we finalise our view as to how and in what manner we should implement the scheme."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP:—"Inasmuch as the question of extension to other districts was not within the purview of the committee, may I know why there has been such a long delay in extending the scheme to other districts if there has been no change in the policy of the Government?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"It is because we want to avoid the mistakes noticed in the past and extend the scheme devoid of all mistakes."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN:—"Is it a fact that the Government are generally unwilling to extend the scheme to other districts?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"It is not a fact."

SRI R. SIDDANNA GOWD:—"Are the Government aware that there are inordinate delays in the disposal of criminal cases by Judicial Magistrates and how are the Government going to avoid these delays?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"What has this supplementary question to do with the main question which is about the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive?"

SRI B. SANKARAYYA:—"కమిటీ రిపోర్టు ప్రభుత్వానికి ఇంకా పంపినదా లేదా ? ఆ రిపోర్టుల మీద ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఏమి అభిప్రాయం ఇచ్చారు ? ఇంతవరకూ ఏమీ చర్య తీసుకోదలచుకోలేదా ?"

Sri K. VINAYAKAM:—"The question put by the hon. Member is: Has the committee sent its report and what is the action that the Government have taken on its recommendations?"

The Hon. Sri K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"I have submitted that the report of the committee is being examined by the Government. Without examining the report, it is not possible to implement the recommendations."

Sri C. H. KANARAN:—"In fact, there is a change in the policy of the Government in regard to the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive. May I know the reason for it?"

The Hon. Sri K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"The hon. Member thinks so because he is prejudiced against the Government."

Sri R. SIDDANNA GOWD:—"Sir, clause (*b*) of the question refers to the removal of defects and the improvement of the standard of administration of criminal justice. My supplementary question as to whether the Government are aware that there are inordinate delays in the disposal of criminal cases by Judicial Magistrates and how the Government are going to avoid these delays is perfectly in order as a supplementary question within the purview of clause (*b*)."

The Hon. Sri K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"The Government are not aware of such a state of things. If individual cases are brought to the notice of Government, they will try to remove the delays."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP:—"Inasmuch as the administration of criminal justice in non-separation districts has been characterised as disgraceful by the committee, may I know why the Government are hesitating to extend the separation scheme?"

The Hon. Sri K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"I am sorry the hon. Member has not followed attentively the reply given by me. The Government are not hesitating. They are only considering the defects that have to be rectified before extending the scheme to other districts. The Government want to extend the scheme to other districts and in answer to clause (*a*) I have said that there has been no change in the policy."

Alleged irregularities in the Minor Panchayat Board Elections.

* 796 *Q.*—Sri K. VENKAIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any reports have been received by the Government and the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards in relation to fraud in the counting of votes in the Minor Panchayat Elections committed by Election Officers and the nature of the irregularities committed; and

(*b*) if so, in relation to how many elections and what steps have been taken on such reports?